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REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Letter dated 23 May 1997 from the Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to draw your attention to the statement by the Presidency of the European Union on the Chechnya peace accord, issued on 16 May 1997 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly under item 82 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) N. H. BIEGMAN
Permanent Representative of the
Netherlands to the United Nations

* A/52/50.

ANNEX

[Original: English and French]

Statement on the Chechnya peace accord, issued on 16 May 1997 by the Presidency of the European Union

On 12 May, President Yeltsin and President Mashkadov signed the Treaty of peace and principles of relations between the Russian Federation and the Chechen Republic of Ichkeria.

The European Union welcomes this treaty and the other agreements signed on the same occasion as further significant steps towards reconciliation, political and economic cooperation and lasting peace in Chechnya.

The European Union hopes that post-war reconstruction and rehabilitation can now start as soon as possible and reiterates its strong support for the work carried out by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe Assistance Group in facilitating this.

The European Union has just made available considerable humanitarian assistance and now expects the much needed aid deliveries to reach Chechnya more easily.

The Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union, the associated country Cyprus and the European Free Trade Association countries members of the European Economic Area align themselves with the present statement.